



JET GAZETTE

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**The Newspaper of the 141st Air Refueling Wing • WA ANG • Fairchild AFB
Serving Air Guard Members and Their Families in Eastern Washington**



Photo by SMSgt. Dave Maxwell

While deployed to Incirlik AB, Turkey, crew chief TSgt. Troy Dokkan completed the necessary paper work prior to a flight.

First aviation AEF deployment for 141st completed

By Maj. Kay Steward

The concept and much talked about Air Expeditionary Force mission became a reality during February and March when the first AEF aviation package from the 141st deployed to Incirlik AB, Turkey, to support Operation Northern Watch. Northern Watch is the monitoring of the no-fly zone over Iraq.

Until now, only a dozen or so individuals from the 141st ARW along with two groups from the 141st Security Forces have deployed for AEF.

Two tankers from the 141st along with four crews and 15 unit members from maintenance and supply participated for AEF number four. There were two rotations covering a 30-day period. Our unit's KC-135's helped fill the total

package that consisted of AWACS, fighters, U.S. Navy, the British Royal Air Force and active duty U.S. Air Force and Guard and Reserve.

"It was a real intensive operation," said SMSgt. Dave Maxwell, who was the deployed maintenance supervisor on the first rotation and is a fabrications supervisor in his technician position. "A lot goes on in a single day. Ramps were shared by both tankers and fighters, unlike in Pisa."

Guard deployments, as we once knew them, may be a thing of the past or at least a bit rarer with the AEF mission. It used to be that on deployments all members of the 141st

KC-135 stand down grounds unit aircraft while deployed for AEF

The Air Force grounded 198 of its 546 KC-135's in its inventory as a precautionary measure for a potential stabilizer trim actuator problem.

Air Mobility Command officials stress there was no precipitating incident, accident or system failure causing the stand down. The restriction was imposed as a precautionary measure due to a manufacturing problem discovered during an assessment of processes developed to replace a stabilizer trim actuator. Failure of the gear could result in a jammed stabilizer. As a result, the stabilizer could be stuck in a position that potentially hinders the airplane from going up or down with input from the pilot.

Four of the 10 KC-135's assigned to the 141st were identified for the stand down. Two were at home station and two were deployed to Turkey in support of AEF.

Deployed personnel returned to Fairchild AFB by either military transport or civilian airliners.

Five individuals remained with the deployed aircraft until the stabilizer trim actuators were replaced.

supported only our unit's aircraft and our particular mission with enough personnel to cover several shifts. With this particular AEF tasking, only enough personnel were sent to cover the job one person deep, said Maxwell.

"This was a minimum package and everyone was expected to perform at a fully proficient level, with nobody there to hold their hand," said Maxwell. "This also made the experience a real rewarding and fulfilling obligation."

Mt. Home AFB, Idaho, uniquely the only composite Expeditionary Air Force wing,

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The *Jet Gazette* welcomes articles and ideas that will enhance the paper. If you have suggestions for features or specific articles, please contact the Public Affairs Office at 247-7042 on UTA weekends, or your **Unit Public Affairs Representatives (UPAR)**:

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141st Medical Squadron

Maj. Scott Nordstrom x7080

MSgt. Dee Sowards x7080

242nd CBCS

2Lt. Michael Beck 458-5449

256th CBCS

Capt. Gent Welsh x7625

served as the lead unit. Maxwell said that at first there were some preconceived notions about the Air National Guard. "This quickly changed as everyone was integrated and the active duty began treating us like everyone else. In turn, they also learned about the concept of the citizen soldier and the commitment

level we have. Most were traditional guardmembers that deployed, which meant there was a hole left in their civilian jobs."

"I volunteered for the deployment," said TSgt. Paul Beuter, a maintenance program engineer employed by Boeing, and a crew chief assigned to the 141 AGS. "It was a change of venue from my civilian job and it was interesting and fun to do."

"We had the luxury of knowing we weren't going to be there 90 days like the active duty. It was also an eye opener. It was the first time I saw airplanes return with less munitions than when they started out. While I was there, I read in the *Stars and Stripes* that aircraft were engaging in Iraqi targets 250 miles from Baghdad."

The concept of AEF, which is designed to integrate the Total Force for global engagement, lived up to the mark.

"It was certainly a real world experience," said Beuter. "And it was very much a team



SMSgt. Dave Maxwell, maintenance supervisor; SSgt Dave Burts, crew chief; and TSgt Troy Dokken, crew chief; standing by prior to launching the aircraft on deployment to Incirlik AB, Turkey.

effort. We felt confident and at ease and we all enjoyed what we were doing. We normally deploy with a minimum of three crew chiefs, but on this AEF deployment there was just myself with no extra resources to fall back on. Only a few minor glitches occurred and they were handled right away. We benefit (in the ANG) from the virtue of aircraft being well maintained. The personal commitment for technicians who do this for their livelihood is intense. They are very prideful in the appearance of our aircraft versus the active duty. This benefited us and kept us from being too overtaxed."

The majority of those that deployed lived in tents and opted to barbecue their own meals in lieu of eating at the dining hall. Each tent had microwaves, refrigerators, coffee pots and barbecues. Beuter said they all wanted to be there so they didn't mind living in the tents. The first week was beautiful with temperature's in the 50's and 60's. The next week was a different story with rains and thundershowers. Those that were deployed as Northern Watch supporters were kept in a separate area from the other functions of the base.

Beuter said they learned to rely heavily on the active duty first sergeant who solved billeting problems and helped them obtain gate passes to do some sight seeing.

They even had the opportunity to go on a two-day overnight trip to the Cappadocia region to visit hidden cities and learned about the region's history. Underground cities were carved into volcanic rock where they had underground discos and folk dancing. They shopped for pottery and carpets.

"The local people were very friendly and had a sense of humor," said Maxwell. "They served tea everywhere we went, even in all the shops."

Photos by SMSgt. Dave Maxwell and TSgt. Mark Perry



"Let's see, how would this look with my decor back home?" TSgt. Sheri Paplham ponders while testing a turkish carpet.

The mission of the *Jet Gazette* is to effectively communicate events and information of the 141st Air Refueling Wing to unit members, their families and retirees and to recognize personal and unit achievements within the wing.



Dr. Dianne Welsh is a recently appointed member of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

*By SSgt. Jim Verchio
92nd Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs*

FAIRCHILD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. — A local Spokane woman says her life experiences will most likely be the tools she uses most while working to improve the quality of life for the men and women who serve in today's military.

That's because Dr. Dianne Welsh, a Spokane resident for the past 12 years, was recently named a member of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services. She is a business management professor at Eastern Washington University and brings 14 years of experience in organizational development to DACOWITS.

DACOWITS provides the Secretary of Defense recommendations relevant to the use of women and all personnel in America's armed forces. The committee is divided into three subcommittees: quality of life, forces development and utilization and equality management.

Historically, recommendations by DACOWITS have been instrumental in effecting changes to laws and policies pertaining to military women. In the 1950's when the committee was formed, the primary focus was on women. Now, the committee emphasizes that men can benefit from its recommendations as well.

Welsh's familiarity with the services goes back to her father who served in the Army Air Corps. President Bill Clinton also saw promise in Welsh and appointed her to the Air Force Academy Board of Visitors in 1997. Her three-year tour with the board recently concluded.

Welsh, who will serve DACOWITS for three years, plans on using all the tools in her arsenal to improve the quality of life for the armed forces, but it's her enthusiasm and attitude that will allow her to leave her mark on the mission.

"What I want to do is make a difference," Welsh said. "The committee has set goals,

and what I'm going to try and do is go beyond that and really get involved."

One of the hottest topics in today's military is retention. Her background in human resource management has taught her an important lesson — people are the key to a successful organization.

"An organization, whether it be military or civilian, has ways to accomplish its mission, but it is the people problems that always get you," she said. "The bottom line: if we are to stay free, we need quality people in the military."

Along with retention, DACOWITS is discussing gender integration in the armed forces. Welsh thinks gender integration is a good thing; however, it is something that needs to be looked at on almost a case-by-case basis.

"I think it's going to depend on the position to be filled and the service wishing to do it," she said. "The Navy integrating women into submarines is a much different scenario than the Air Force letting women be fighter pilots."

"It's important that we allow integration, because, when we do, it allows us to bring on-board qualifications we wouldn't have had if we would have separated people out. With integration, it's much more like the world we live in, and in the end when people do separate, it will give them the tools they need to make a smoother transition into the civilian sector."

Welsh is no stranger when it comes to change. Throughout her life she has encountered many obstacles. However, through it all she has continued to succeed, in some cases where others have failed. Through tough times as a single parent, she continued to strive for higher education, and through her perseverance she obtained her doctorate degree at age 32.

"I remember when I was going through grad school earning \$500 a month, there was one time I only had a dollar to last me and my 3-year-old daughter a week. It was difficult, but we made it," she said.

Welsh accomplished what some said couldn't be done. During the Cold War she traveled to Russia in the hopes of improving the processes of a government-run production plant.

Working 16 hour days, Welsh showed plant personnel how to improve the quality of cotton fabrics. She used a reward system to

give the workers a vested interest in their product and the factory adopted her principles and practices.

Working for DACOWITS offers her no salary, but Welsh says the satisfaction of making a difference is reward enough. Her enthusiasm showed as Welsh quoted one of her role models, Marian Wright Edleman: "Service is the rent we pay for living."



The Honorable F. Whitten Peters, Secretary of the Air Force, recently visited Fairchild AFB. As you can see in the photo above, Col. Jim Wynne and Col. Erwin Lessel, Commander 92nd ARW gave him a tour of the active duty and Air National Guard facilities.

In a recent prepared speech, "Air Force Posture Statement and Future Challenges," Mr. Whitten stated that since 1989 the Air Force is 33 percent smaller and 400 percent busier. To minimize deployments, the Expeditionary Aerospace Force has been created. The rotational structure of EAF provides more access to reserve forces, because it allows traditional reservists and their employers a year or more to resolve schedule conflicts — 25,000 guardmembers will take EAF assignments in each rotation.

Fraud Awareness

By Lt. Col. Nicki Thiot

Recently representatives from the Air Force Office of Special Investigation and the Air Force Audit Agency presented a very informative briefing on fraud awareness. Fraud awareness goes beyond those that manage resources. Fraud can occur at any time and any place and we need to be made aware of the definition of fraud and how to report fraudulent activity.

It is said that "the funny thing about fraud is sometimes it's the most trusted employee who takes advantage of the boss' trust to make a personal profit."

Special Agent Kulasiewicz, AFOSI Fairchild AFB, provided a very informative pamphlet that can be found in the office of Maj. Karen Azzinnaro, 141 ARW/IG where suspected fraudulent activity can be reported. You can also call AFOSI DET 322, FAFB, 247-2591. The following information is addressed in the pamphlet:

What is Fraud, Waste and Abuse? Fraud is: A misrepresentation of facts known to be false when presented. A dishonest advantage, conscious wrong-doing, unlawful act that affects the government or the Air Force.

Most simply stated, fraud is theft. It can occur in ways which are far from simple, however. Using bribery, collusion, payoffs, threats, inside information, business fronts, money laundering, embezzlement and submitting false documentation are just a few examples of what fraud is.

Impact of Fraud, Waste and Abuse
What does fraud cost you? An estimated \$40 billion a year!

The first way FWA should affect you is that it should make you very, very angry. DoD is under heavy and constant fire for fraud waste and abuse. In this age of tightening budgets, all aspects of spending should be examined.

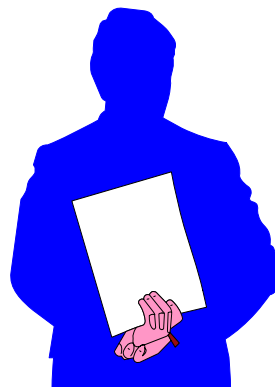
FWA results in lost buying power. Do you have all of the tools you need to do your job? Are you satisfied with your work environment? The USAF is allotted enough money to satisfy your requirements. However, it can't meet those needs when people illegally take what money is rightfully yours.

FWA can mean an unsafe environment. Does vital equipment fail to work when needed? Inferior products substituted for the high quality products the Air Force pays for can cost more than money.

Finally, FWA makes the Air Force look like we can't manage our resources. In plain English, it makes us look bad. If you take pride in the uniform you wear, you don't want that to happen.

Why it's important

The single biggest reason it's important is because it's your money! American taxpayers (including you) are giving a large chunk of their hard earned money to ensure the USAF can fly, fight and win. When they realize they are paying \$50 for a hammer or \$10,000 for a computer that doesn't work, it erodes the credibility and mission capability of the USAF.



They are paying for the best Air Force in the world and expect us to fulfill our global mission anywhere they are needed, at a moment's notice. They entrust us with the security of the nation. With that trust comes the responsibility to ensure each and every one of their dollars are used for the reason they are given. No one likes to be taken advantage of, and it's our responsibility to ensure we are not.

Fraud, waste and abuse indicators

- Concentration of authority and responsibility in one person for an entire process
- Inadequate feedback on results of operations
- Lack of independent verification of the accuracy of records, transactions and reports
- Vague and confusing procedures and standards
- Inadequate physical safeguards over resources
- Inability to identify responsibility
- Lack of adequate supervision or oversight
- Unrealistic budgetary and/or acquisition requirements
- Failure to strictly enforce contract provisions
- Failure to correct deficiencies identified by existing systems

Where do I fit in?

As an active duty military member, a reservist, or a civilian DoD employee, you can do your part and report suspicious activity to AFOSI. Let AFOSI determine if an allegation has merit.

Over 37 percent of all cases opened by AFOSI were as a direct result of the information provided by Air Force people like you. They weren't any smarter, richer or higher rank. They were just tired of being taken advantage of and being ripped off!

The best way to assist AFOSI and the USAF to recover defrauded money is to be aware of fraud indicators and report questionable situations to AFOSI for evaluation. While not everything you report will turn out to be a major fraud investigation with millions in recoveries, perhaps your contribution can be used to identify a problem, correct a procedure, or improve a wasteful process. Help stop fraud before it starts.

Bug of the month: Hepatitis A

By Maj Barry Pishko
Infection Control OIC

What is Hep-A? It is a highly contagious and sometimes fatal liver disease. Historically, it was called infectious hepatitis. The virus is shed in the feces and also can be detected in the blood and urine. Each year, approximately 1.4 million people worldwide and

143,000 people in the United States become infected with Hep-A, costing patients and employers millions of dollars in wages and productivity.

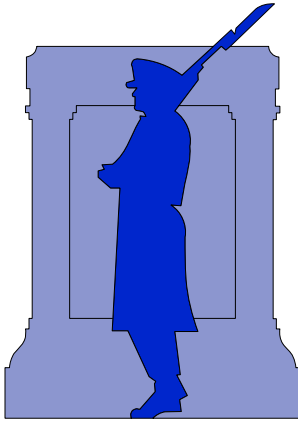
How do you get Hep-A? It's spread by fecal - oral route, usually through contaminated food or water. That means you can get it by just forgetting to wash your hands.

What are the symptoms? Flu-like symptoms, such as a fever, chills and a general feeling of weakness, may occur. Also, anorexia, nausea, jaundice, dark urine, gray colored stools, stomach pain and fatigue.

Who is at risk? People traveling to Africa,

Asia, Mediterranean basin, Eastern Europe, Middle East, Central and South America, Mexico and parts of the Caribbean; military personnel, people who engage in high risk sexual activity, illicit drug use and food handlers.

Steps to take for prevention. Avoid untreated tap water or ice cubes. When drinking or brushing your teeth, use bottled water. Do not eat unpeeled fruits, salads, uncooked veggies or shellfish. Vaccinate with Hep-A Vaccine two weeks prior to your travel destination.



Congress Guarantees Veterans' Funeral Honors

By Linda D. Kozaryn
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — As America bids farewell to the veterans of World War II, Congress has taken steps to ensure these patriotic GIs receive their ceremonial due.

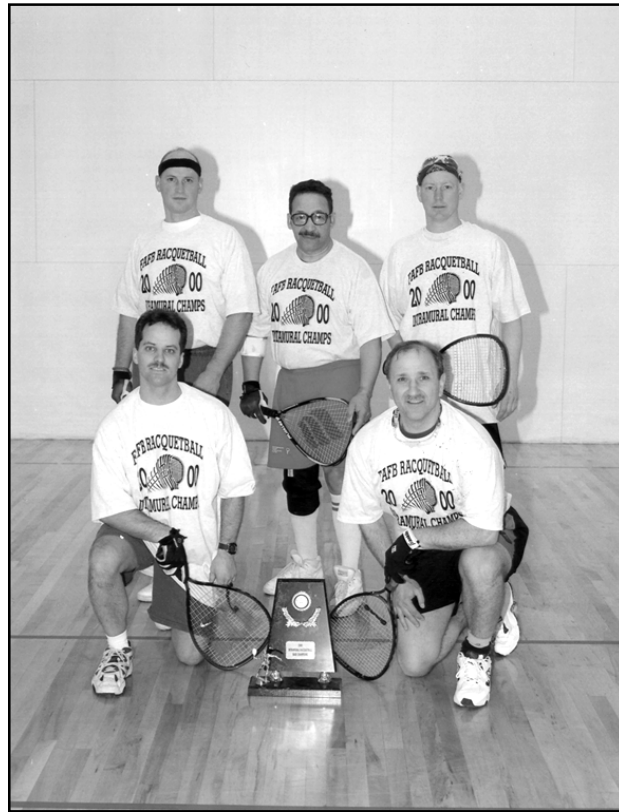
By law, as of Jan. 1, all eligible veterans will be entitled to military funeral honors signifying America's gratitude for their honorable service. Upon request, two service members will fold and present the American flag to surviving family members, and a bugler will sound "Taps." If a bugler is not available, a high-quality CD will be used.

One quarter of the nation's 26 million veterans alive today are over age 65. Department of Veterans Affairs officials project the rate of veterans' deaths will rise through 2008 to about 620,000 per year, up from 456,000 deaths in 1989 and 537,000 in 1997.

In addition, 77 U.S. installations have closed since 1989, and 20 more will close by 2001. In many cases, funeral details now have to travel greater distances to provide support. Gail McGinn, principal director to the deputy assistant secretary of defense for Personnel Support, Families and Education, said her office examined 9,800 requests for funeral honors received from June 1 to Sept. 30 this year and found 23 percent could not be fully supported and 2 percent received no support.

DoD's new policy calls for funeral directors, rather than families, to contact the military. Military funeral honors must be requested—they aren't provided automatically.

By law, veterans are now eligible for military funeral honors if they served in the active military and were discharged under other than dishonorable conditions, or if they were a member or former member of the Selective Reserve. Veterans are ineligible if they are convicted of federal or state capital offenses and sentenced to life imprisonment without parole or receive the death penalty.



Fairchild AFB raquetball championship is taken by 141st ARW

The 141st ARW raquetball team won the title of 2000 Intramural Raquetball Base Champions on Fairchild Air Force Base. The season started in January and ended on March 6 with the championship match.

Sixteen teams from different squadrons on Fairchild started the season with the top eight making the playoffs. The 141st lost only one match during the regular season, to the 92nd

OSS, which seated them number two going into the playoffs.

Members of the team are (standing in above photo) MSgt. Jim Voelker, James Troutt, TSgt. Dennis Jeney and (kneeling) SSgt. Tony King and SMSgt. Harold Voltz. Not shown in photo are MSgt. Todd Deffinbaugh and TSgt. Mark Hodge.

Policy announced for funeral honors duty

The provision of military funeral honors is designated a total force mission. National Guard traditional, AGR and military technician personnel in a military status may be authorized to perform military funeral honors for veterans.

Reservists who participate will receive a \$50 stipend, regardless of rank, and a point toward their retirement for duty of at least two hours. They may accumulate retirement points for funeral honors duty beyond their annual cap.

The mandatory minimum ceremony consists

of two uniformed members of the armed forces in addition to a bugler, if available. One of the uniformed persons will be a member of the deceased veteran's parent service.

About 24,000 funeral director will receive DoD kits containing the necessary information on flag folding and the sequence of the ceremony. The kits will also include a compact disc of "Taps". A live bugler is first choice, but there are only 500 buglers in the whole DoD and they're not strategically located across the country.

News Briefs



Military dress and appearance reminders

Tattoos/Brands - Tattoos or brands anywhere on the body that are obscene, advocate sexual, racial, ethnic, or religious discrimination are prohibited in and out of uniform. Tattoos/brands that are prejudicial to good order and discipline, or of a nature that tends to bring discredit upon the Air Force are prohibited in and out of uniform. Excessive tattoos/brands will not be exposed or visible (includes visible through the uniform) while in uniform. Excessive is defined as any tattoo/brands that exceed one fourth of the exposed body part and those above the collarbone and readily visible when wearing an open collar uniform. (Failure to comply is a violation of Article 2, UCMJ)

Body Piercing - In *uniform* members are prohibited from attaching, affixing or displaying objects, articles, jewelry or ornamentation to or through the ear, nose,

tongue or any exposed body part (includes visible through the uniform) Exception: Women are authorized to wear one small spherical, conservative, diamond, gold, white pearl, or silver pierced or clip earring per earlobe and the earring worn in each earlobe must match. Earring should fit tightly without extending below the earlobe except for the connecting band on clip earrings.

In *civilian attire* on official duty members are prohibited from attaching, affixing or displaying objects, articles, jewelry or ornamentation to or through the ear, nose, tongue, or any exposed body part. Exception: women are authorized to wear one earring in each ear with the same description in the above paragraph outlining guidelines in uniform.

Off duty on a military installation: Members are prohibited from attaching, affixing or displaying objects, articles, jewelry or ornamentation to or through the ear, nose, tongue or any exposed body part (includes visible through clothing). Exception: Piercing of earlobes by women is allowed, but should not be extreme or excessive. The type and style of earrings worn by women on a military installation should be conservative and kept with sensible limits. (Failure to observe these mandatory provisions and prohibitions is a violation of Article 92, UCMJ)

Eye glasses and sunglasses- Free of ornamentation on frames and lenses. Conservative, clear, slightly tinted or photosensitive lenses indoors or in formation. Conservative lenses and frames outdoors (faddish styles and mirrored lenses prohibited). No sunglasses in formation. May not be worn around the neck.

CCAF has new policy

Effective June 1 CCAF will no longer accept copies of approved certificates, licenses and registries directly from students toward credit. Students must request a formal letter from the issuing agency that includes full name, social security number, date of birth, type of credential with current standing and date of award.

These formal verification letters must be handled in the same manner as official transcripts, therefore, only official letters received by the Education Office will be accepted for submission for credit toward the completion of an AA through CCAF. The change is necessary to prevent fraud and bring the award of credit for approved certificates, licenses and registries in line with other CCAF practices. Current addresses and phone numbers are available in the Education Office during drill weekends. Formal verification letters should be mailed to: 141 MSF/DPE, 1403 W. Wainwright Blvd., Fairchild AFB, WA 99011-9424.



Distance Learning tuition assistance

A support agreement effective April 1 between the Air National Guard and the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) provides tuition assistance reimbursement for traditional and technician members who complete courses via Distance Learning. The qualifying courses are those listed in the DANTES *Independent Study Catalog*, *External Degree Catalog* and the *Catalog of Nationally Accredited Distance Learning Programs*. These catalogs are available on the DANTES website at <http://voled.doded.mil/dantes/dl/index.htm>. Courses selected must lead to a stated education goal, i.e., certification, licensing or an associate, bachelor's or master's degree. This program assistance is limited to \$1000 per student per fiscal year and will be reimbursed for 75 percent of tuition or \$187.50 per semester hour, whichever is less. The student will be reimbursed after successful course completion. For more information, pick up a pamphlet from either your Unit or Base Education and Training Manager.

Multicultural Fair update

The date has changed for the 4th Annual Multicultural Fair on Fairchild AFB. It has been rescheduled from May 25 to July 20 since May is Asian Pacific Islanders Month and FAFB leadership would prefer to specifically focus on those celebrations in May. So mark the new date of July 20 down. The location will be at the Deel Community Center on base.

The mission statement from last year's fair will be used again, "Bringing people together from as many diverse backgrounds as possible and provide an opportunity for us to share our cultures, as well as learn about other cultures."

Mrs. Peggy Troutt, who is representing the 141 ARW, is co-chairing the fair with SSgt. Darrel Collier of the 92 ARW. Volunteers are still needed. Call Mrs. Troutt at 247-7001 for information.

Booster Club news

If you are not a member of the Spokane Air Guard Booster Club, now is the time to join. The annual membership drive is from April 1 to June 30. Membership fees are \$5 yearly or \$50 for lifetime. Any current or former member of the Washington Air National Guard is eligible for membership.

Membership fees were increased this year for the first time in 17 years. The increase was necessary to support current programs, particularly for the retirement plaques.

The Annual Booster Club Golf Tournament is scheduled for June but the exact dates are still pending. The event will take place at Sundance Golf Course, past Seven Mile on Nine Mile Road in northwest Spokane. This is a great event to get out and enjoy the camaraderie of current and former members of the Guard.

The Booster Club is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the history, heritage and camaraderie of the Air National Guard.

Promotions

Chief Master Sgt.

Michael Meyer 242 CBCS
Stephen Seney 141 LS

Senior Master Sgt.

John A. Bartlett, III 141 LS
Bruce Olson 116 ARS
John J. Stalik, III 141 MXS

Master Sgt.

Greg Renz 141 MSF
Robert Tipton 141 MSF
Arthur Miller 141 CES
Cheryl Gural 141 MSF
Clifton Barr 242 CBCS
Todd Rinehart 141 LG
James Olbekson 141 LS
Ronald Tilley 141 SFS
Leland Becker 141 LS
Cindy Psick 141 LS
Larry Psick 141 LS
Stephen Tilford 116 ARS
Carol Albright 141 LG

Tech. Sgt.

Robert Hayden 141 MDS
Darrin Knapp 141 LS
Michael Nealy 242 CCS
Earl Nulf 141 LSF
Monica Helman 116 ARS
Robert Gibson 116 ARS
Anthony King 141 CF

Staff Sgt.

Shannon Lee 141 MSF
Nancy Price 141 CES
Michiel Mikkelsen 141 SFS

Senior Airman

Champ McCulloh 242 CCS
Franklin Bryant 242 CCS
Joseph Fields 141 SFS
Christy Maryott 141 CES
Emerson Kaesemeyer 116 ARS
Supapon Lawson 116 ARS



In Memory

Retired CMSgt. Dean Ormsby passed away. Ormsby joined the 242 CBCS in 1947 and later transferred to the 141st. He retired in 1977. Besides his many other contributions, Ormsby named the unit newspaper the "Jet Gazette" in 1962.

New Members

February

TSgt Brian Bliss 242 CBCS
A1C Todd Zyp 141 LS
SRA Michael Mattern 141 SFS
SRA Christof Brantz 141 SFS
SSgt Scott Mosley 141 OG
SRA Melissa Merbach 116 ARS
Amn Tammy Carpenter 256 CBCS
MSgt Susan Toole 256 CBCS
SRA Giles Stankiewicz 242 CBCS
MSgt Lawrence Stockton 116 ARS

March

A1C Holly Williamson 141 SVF
A1C Steven Olson 141 AGS
A1C Sharon Feist 242 CBCS
SRA Michael Wilson 141 MXS
AB Joseph Benson 242 CBCS
SRA Jeffrey Miller 242 CBCS
TSgt Lindsay Garvin 256 CBCS
SSgt Arthur Weidner 141 CES
SRA Jacqueline Gardner 141 LSF
SSgt Andrea Scott 256 CBCS
SRA Sacha Bobst 242 CBCS
SSgt Ron Harding 141 AGS
2LT Therese Anderson 141 ARW
(Prior enlisted member of 141 Clinic)

Retirements

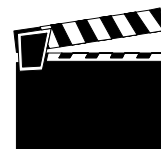
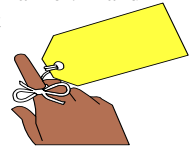
March

MSgt Jorge Santiago 141 CES
SSgt Michael Gandolfo 242 CBCS

April

Capt Neil Schmehl 242 CBCS

Reminder!! When you check mobility bag items out from Special Assets they need to be returned in a timely manner. Hand receipts state they must be returned within five days after a deployment. Call TSgt. Thurman at ext. 7731 for more information.



In case you didn't know, this year's Academy Awards Oscar winner, Hilary Swank, who received the best actress award for her role in "Boys Don't Cry" is the daughter of retired SMSgt. Steve Swank. Steve was a recruiter for the 141st and the 262 CBCS in Bellingham.



Another Guard family photo

Our Guard family plan keeps growing. We have just about every family combination imaginable. This time we think we found a family with the most related members serving at the same time.

From the left in the photo above is TSgt. Greg

Thompson, 141 LS; his wife MSgt. Sandy Thompson, 141 MSF; Sandy's sister MSgt. Sharon Bartlett, recruiter; new enlistee A1C Jason Bartlett, 256 CBCS and son of Shari and John, and SMSgt. John Bartlett III, 141 LGS.

Reserves Announce Strategic Family Readiness Plan

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — If you were to visit U.S. troops in the world's hot spots —Bosnia, Kosovo, East Timor and other —chances are, you'll meet members of the reserve components. Guardmembers and reservists are increasingly mobilizing for missions only active duty troops did a decade ago.

But calling up the reserves is different from ordering an active duty unit for deployment. And what works for active duty families' readiness may not work for reservists.

"The 'missioning' of the reserve components has changed dramatically, yet we really hadn't focused on how their operations tempo was impacting on members' families," said Charles Cragin, principal deputy assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs.

DoD studied the problems of family

readiness and issued the "National Guard and Reserve Family Readiness Strategic Plan: 2000-2005."

The plan was considered at a September 1999 conference of enlisted and officer members, spouses, representatives from the American Red Cross and the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve and family support personnel from throughout the services.

The strategic plan supports four major goals. First, it supports mission readiness through reserve component family readiness.

"Men and women in the reserves have a full-time civilian job, and then they also have a full-time commitment to America in the Guard or reserves," he said. "So the more time they spend in the reserves, the less time they spend with their families."

Taking care of reserve component family



members, therefore, is an important readiness issue and the family readiness plan is more than "nice-to-have" Cragin said. "It has long been said that you recruit the member, but retain the family."

The second goal is to develop family readiness programs and services that improve quality of life and support reserve component recruiting and retention.

The third goal is to provide reserve component service members equitable and accessible benefits and entitlements. "In quality of life issues for family members, we wanted to look at equity of benefits and entitlements of active and reserve component members' families," Cragin said. "That doesn't mean parity, but equity based on what everybody is doing as part of the total force."

The fourth and possibly most difficult, is to standardize the readiness programs across the services and within the services to ensure their families are seamlessly integrated into the total force.

"For example, the families of members of the Guard and reserves live in just about every community in America. They're not necessarily linked to a military base or facility. We have to recognize that," said Cragin.

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